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which proved correct: and the patient died into the bargain. Now this does not argue anything against medicine, except that it would be incautious, to say the least, to tackle so complex a problem as crime merely from the medical end. Moreover, as it approaches sociology and economics, medicine becomes more scientific. For example, the "tripod" upon which the treatment of tuberculosis rests—namely, rest, food and air—is at bottom economic and sociologic. The same is true of the handling of cases of occupational diseases and many others. Again, the most promising step in recent medical work is the addition of so-called "social service" to hospital, convalescent, and general medical practice.

Hence in answering Dean Vaughan's question, "Shall we submit to the surgeon's knife and be made sound or will we enjoy the present as best we can and leave the future to our children?" I should say everything depends upon who the surgeon is and what his knife. If by surgeon he means the man who will cut away the rotten tenement and shack, who will compel the abatement or elimination of sweatshops, smoke, under-employment at starvation wages, juvenile street-trading, commercialized vice, the taboo upon the unmarried mother, the twelve-hour shift, child-labor, the saloon, the puritanic spirit which forbids children to play and otherwise "desecrate the Sabbath," but provides nothing rational as an outlet for the play instinct and compels it to express itself clandestinely and vulgarly; or the man who will overcome the present ineptitude of police, courts and jails, or who can humanize the general spirit of exploitation: if the definition of surgeon includes all this, there can be no disagreement. Along with the doctors and surgeons and nurses and sanitary inspectors must march all the company of social workers and the great lay body of an illuminated public. For the very success of medical work itself the physician must appeal to the support of educated public sentiment. Ten chances to one this educating of public sentiment in the matter of the criminal will have eliminated the very problems which our medical and social schemes have set themselves to cure. In any event the educative means will have been, not medicine, but economic and social institutions. That is to say, crime is fundamentally a problem of social economy, with medicine and surgery as adjuncts.

A. J. T.

**Factors in Education for the Abatement and Cure of Diseases and Crime.**—"The suppression of crime is not at all a legal question. It is rather a problem of physicians, economists, parents and teachers. Homemakers, teachers, sanitarians in all walks of life must combine in the work of developing and maintaining of a public sentiment that shall abate and cure disease and crime. The mother must be more interested in rearing civically, morally and physically strong boys and girls than in fashion or whist; the father, more interested in his home than in his lodge, club, equally as interested in his boys and girls as in his business, whether that business is farming, teaching, merchant, doctor, editor, clergyman, worker in factory, or whatever it may be. What is that which should be done for the child that shall make it possible for him to develop into a useful and respected citizen? In the large centers of population, at least in some of them, this question is being answered by juvenile courts, detention homes, probation officers, good environments for delinquent boys and girls. The instrumentalities to which we have referred proceed upon the wise principle that *the state is the ultimate parent of all children, that a weak family is a weakness of the state*. In dealing with disease and crime preventive and curative measures now go hand in hand. The juvenile courts, the probation officers, the work of the detention homes are mighty factors in the prevention and cure of crime.

"Keeping the stigma of arrest off delinquent boys and girls, prevents criminals and cures crimes. These delinquents are more often an effect of parental cause. Why punish the effect? The Cook County Juvenile court practices sympathy and consideration in dealing with delinquents. No arrests are made. The delinquent is brought before a sympathetic human judge and he talks the matter over with this magistrate, who sends him to the detention home, the Juvenile Psychopathic Institute, puts him on probation, or finds him a good home. This is prevention of criminal making, cure of crime. The practice of this court in the reformation of delinquent girls is sublime. In so far as it is possible to do so, the darkened page in the girls' lives is guarded from the public gaze. A woman judge, a woman stenographer, a woman probation officer and the mother of the delinquent girls are an ideal group before whom the wayward girl may unburden her soul and look for sympathetic aid and justice, says Judge Pinckney. Miss Mary M. Bartelme hears the cases against delinquent girls, and she and Judge Pinckney are annually preventing hundreds of delinquents from becoming criminals. In view of the great work being done to prevent crime, cure the delinquency, we are led to believe Charlotte Perkins Gilman's statement, *The world's last prison will be a hospital.*

"The juvenile courts are doing much, but in the last analysis, we must look to the home and school to prevent disease and crime. Neither of these great factors are doing anywhere near what they must do if the ravages of disease are prevented, the march of crime halted. Let us come from the abstract to the concrete. Take the example of the social-center town hall, church and schools of New England, where disease and crime were hardly known. It won't do to point the finger at New England of today. If she has receded from her commanding position as citizen maker, it is due to the fact that degenerate parents have multiplied more rapidly than normal ones. Coming closer home, consider Hillsdale city and county which, through education and civic living, has the lowest disease and crime record of any corresponding unit of population in Michigan. This county organized a civic-health movement last March that is an example which may be followed by other counties in the state in the prevention of disease and delinquency; likewise, Jackson county is another example of sanitary organization."—D. E. McClure, Asst. Secy. State Board of Health, Lansing, Mich. From *Public Health*, August, 1914.

**Two Cases of Criminal Imbecility.**—*Case I.*—A sixteen-year-old boy murders his former teacher, is arrested, makes a confession, is indicted and tried for the crime.

The theory of the prosecution: Confession is taken at its full value. Circumstantial evidence is added and although no motive is discovered, the boy is supposed to have committed the deed in accordance with a long planned and well worked out scheme.

The theory of the defense: The boy is feeble-minded, not responsible, and while knowing what he was doing, did not know the nature of the deed and the wrongfulness of it. The boy's confession not to be taken too seriously, because he is an imbecile. This fact being recognized, it becomes entirely possible that the whole affair was a sexual matter and thus the motive is supplied and the whole occurrence made at least intelligible.

*Case II.*—A nineteen-year-old boy in company with an older man murders an overseer. Motive of the elder man, jealousy. The boy had no motive, but a study of his confession and the circumstances makes it clear that he was act-